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(54) Cartons

(57) A tubular carton erected from a blank comprises a removable portion in the form of an additional panel 52 is attached to a wall-forming panel 8 of the blank along a perforated fold line 54. The additional panel 52 is bonded to a wall-forming panel 2 along one or more bands 56 and 58 by a peelable adhesive. The carton is erected by applying pressure to the two sides of

the flattened sleeve so formed, this action optionally causing separation of the panel 52 from the panel 8 along the perforated fold line 54, prior to end closure. The additional panel 52, which may have promotional matter printed thereon, is easily removable by peeling and, if necessary, by tearing along the perforated fold line 54, without spoiling the appearance of the carton.

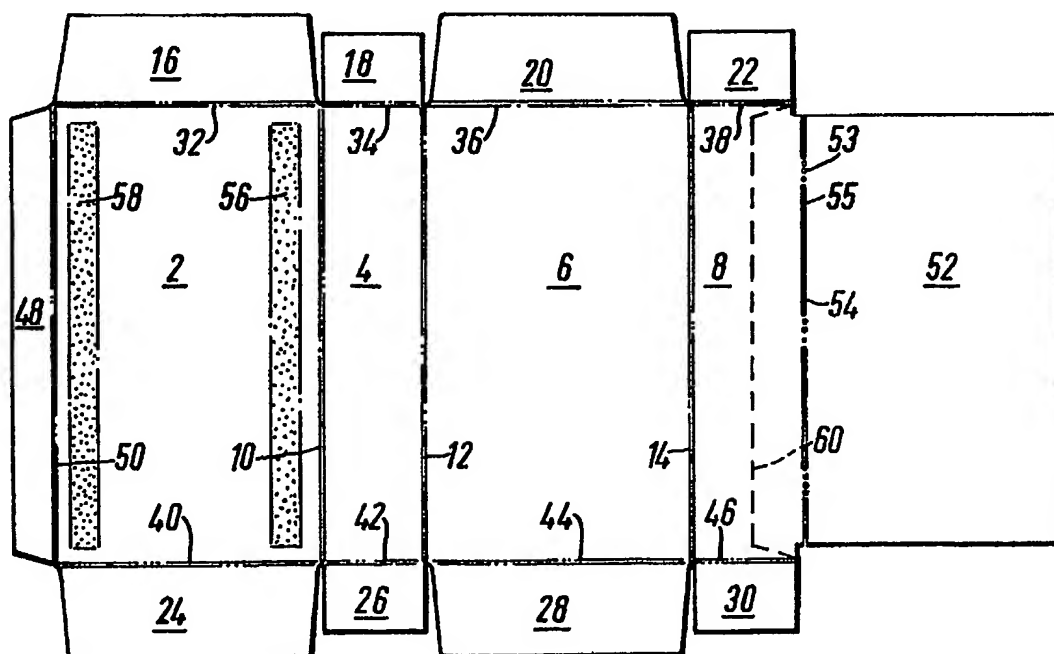


FIG. 1

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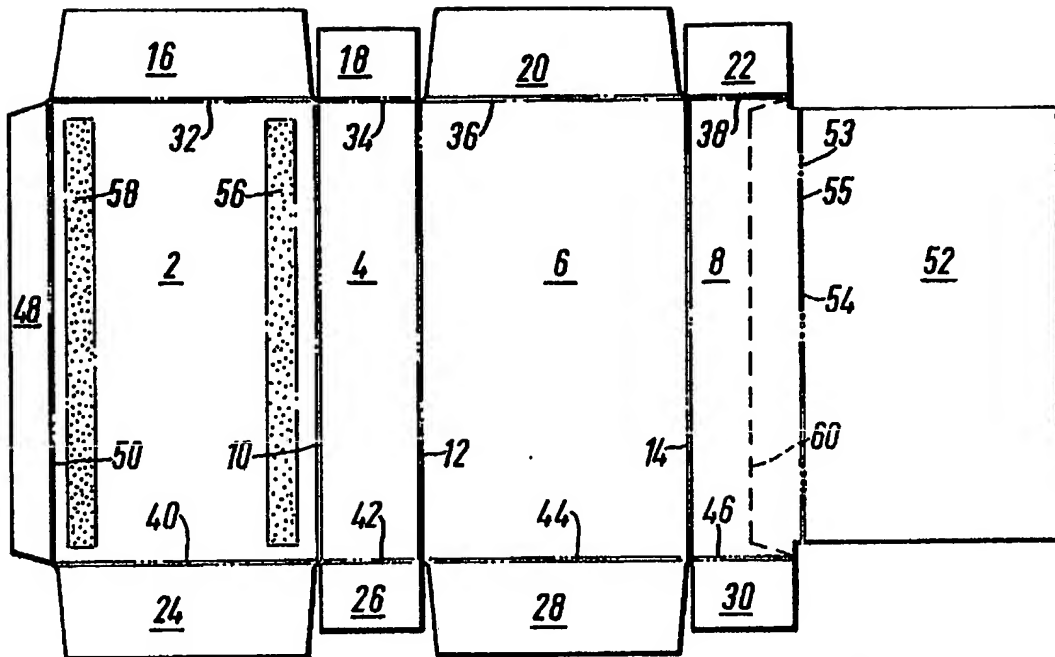


FIG. 1

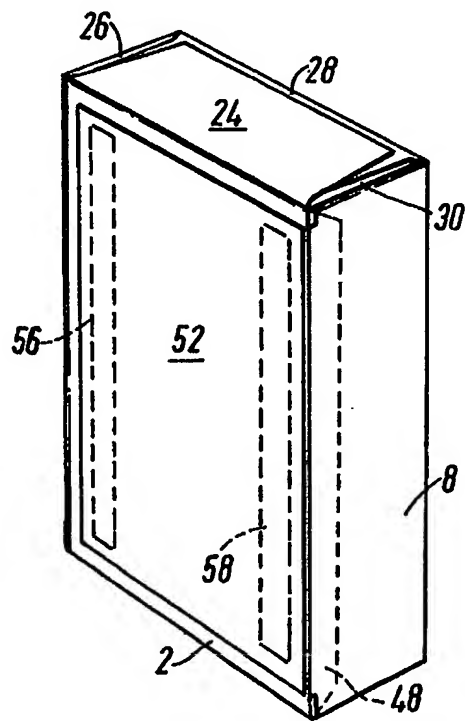


FIG. 2

SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to cartons

This invention relates to cartons and to blanks for forming cartons, and is more particularly, but not exclusively, concerned with skillett cartons, that is cartons comprising a sleeve portion consisting of four side wall panels and, at each end, four end flaps for closing off the ends of the sleeve portion.

It is common practice for cartons containing food and other products to have promotional items, such as special offers, games, and information of general interest, printed thereon. Often the purchaser will want to remove the promotional item before the product has been used, but this generally involves damaging the carton in some way which may spoil its appearance or even render it unsuitable to contain the product. It has been proposed to provide a carton with a pouch for a card having a promotional item printed thereon by gluing a transparent sheet to one side of the carton. However, the production of such a carton is complicated and therefore expensive since the gluing of the transparent sheets requires an additional production step and the cards have to be introduced into the pouches by hand.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved carton, and a blank therefor, which has a portion suitable for containing a promotional item and capable of being removed without spoiling the appearance of the carton, and which may be manufactured without the need for additional production steps.

According to the invention there is provided a blank for forming a carton, comprising a sleeve-forming portion consisting of wall-forming panels arranged side-by-side and interconnected by fold lines, a closure tab attached along a fold line to the wall-forming panel on one side of the sleeve-forming portion for engaging the wall-forming panel on the other side of the sleeve-forming portion when the carton is erected, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve-forming portion along fold lines for closing off the ends of the carton, and a removable portion in the form of an additional panel attached along a fold line to the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion and adapted to overlie the wall-forming panel on said one side of the sleeve-forming portion and to be removably attached thereto when the carton is erected.

The invention also provides a carton comprising a sleeve portion consisting of wall-forming panels interconnected by fold lines and by a closure tab attached to one of the wall-forming panels along a fold line and engaging another of the wall-forming panels flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve portion along fold lines and closing off the ends of the sleeve portion, and a removable portion formed by an additional panel attached along a fold line to said other wall-forming panel in the blank from which the carton is erected, said removable portion overlying said one wall-forming

panel and being removably attached thereto.

The removable portion may have the promotional item printed thereon, or alternatively the promotional item may be printed on said one wall-forming panel so as to be hidden by the removable portion. Preferably the removable portion is attached to said one wall-forming panel by a peelable adhesive which may be in the form of two bands one on each side region of the panel.

Furthermore the invention comprises a method of erecting a blank to form a carton, wherein the blank is in the form of a flattened sleeve comprising a sleeve-forming portion consisting of wall-forming panels arranged side-by-side and interconnected by fold lines, a closure tab attached to one of the wall-forming panels along a fold line and engaging another of the wall-forming panels, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve-forming portion along fold lines, and a removable portion in the form of an additional panel attached to said other wall-forming panel along a perforated fold line and overlying said one wall-forming panel and being removably attached thereto, the method comprising applying pressure to the sides of the blank to erect the sleeve and to thereby cause the perforations connecting the removable portion to said other wall-forming panel to break.

It will be appreciated that the removable portion will initially constitute an integral part of the sheet forming the blank, and that the provision of this portion does not therefore involve an additional production step. Furthermore, in forming the flattened sleeve, the removable portion may be removably attached to said one wall-forming portion at the same time as the closure tab is engaged with said other wall-forming panel.

In order that the invention may be more fully understood, a skillett carton in accordance with the invention, and a blank therefor, will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 shows the blank; and

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the erected carton.

The blank comprises a wall-forming portion 1 consisting of four rectangular wall-forming panels 2, 4, 6 and 8 interconnected by fold lines 10, 12 and 14, and, at each end of the portion 1, four end flaps 16, 18, 20 and 22, or 24, 26, 28 and 30 attached to respective panels 2, 4, 6 and 8 along fold lines 32, 34, 36 and 38 or 40, 42, 44 and 46. In addition a closure tab 48 is attached to the wall-forming panel 2 along a fold line 50, and a removable portion for containing a promotional item in the form of an additional panel 52 is attached to the wall-forming panel 8 along a perforated fold line 54. The panel 52 is smaller than the panel 2. The perforated fold line 54, which is formed in the same machining operation as the other fold lines, comprises four perforated portions such as 53 separated by cuts such as 55 extending completely through the sheet forming the blank.

During production of the blank a permanent adhesive is applied to the closure tab 48 and a peelable adhesive is applied to the wall-forming panel 2 along two bands 56 and 58 extending parallel to the fold lines 10 and 50. The blank is then folded along the fold line 10 so that the panel 2 and closure tab 48 overlie the panels 4 and 6 with the adhesive facing away from the panels 4 and 6, and is subsequently folded along the fold line 14 so that the panels 8 and 52 overlie the panel 2 and closure tab 48 with the result that the tab 48 is permanently bonded to the panel 8, as shown by the broken line 60 in Figure 1, and the panel 52 is bonded along its two sides to the panel 2. The blank will then be in the form of a flattened sleeve rendering it particularly suitable for transportation to a packaging plant.

The carton may be erected in the packaging plant to enable it to be filled with the product simply by pressing on the two sides of the flattened sleeve, that is on the fold lines 10 and 14, to cause the blank to fold along the lines 12 and 50. Since the perforated fold line 54 overlies the fold line 50, the blank will simultaneously be caused to fold along the perforated line 54. This will eventually cause the perforated portions such as 53 to break thereby separating the panel 52 from the panel 8. Once the sleeve has been fully opened out the carton may be filled with the product and the ends closed off by folding and gluing the flaps 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 in a conventional manner.

The erected carton will therefore incorporate an additional panel 52 which overlies the panel 2 and which is capable of being easily removed from the remainder of the carton by peeling without weakening the structure of the carton or spoiling its appearance. The adhesive along the lines 56 and 58 should be such as to enable the purchaser to peel the panel 52 from the panel 2 but should be strong enough to prevent the panel 52 from being accidentally detached during handling of the carton. Of course, accidental detaching of the panel 52 is reliably prevented if the complete carton is wrapped with a transparent covering. Printing may be applied to the panel 52 at the same time as the rest of the blank is printed.

In a modification of the above-described blank and carton the perforated fold line 54 is continuously perforated so that, when the carton is erected, the additional panel 52 is not separated from the panel 8 by breaking of the perforations but remains attached to the panels along the fold line 54. In this modification the band 58 of peelable adhesive closest to the fold line 54 is dispensed with, and the panel 52 is removable from the carton by peeling along the band 56 and subsequently tearing along the perforated fold line 54.

60 CLAIMS

1. A blank for forming a carton, comprising a sleeve-forming portion consisting of wall-forming panels arranged side-by-side and interconnected by fold lines, a closure tab attached along a fold

65 line to the wall-forming panel on one side of the sleeve-forming portion for engaging the wall-forming panel on the other side of the sleeve-forming portion when the carton is erected, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve-forming portion along fold lines for closing off the ends of the carton, and a removable portion in the form of an additional panel attached along a fold line to the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion and adapted to overlie the wall-forming panel on said one side of the sleeve-forming portion and to be removably attached thereto when the carton is erected.

2. A blank according to claim 1, wherein the removable portion is attached to the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion by perforations.

3. A blank according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a band of peelable adhesive is provided for interconnecting the removable portion and the wall-forming panel on said one side of the sleeve-forming portion when the carton is erected.

4. A blank according to claim 3, wherein the band of peelable adhesive is disposed to lie along a side region of the removable portion remote from a further side region attached to the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion when the carton is erected.

5. A blank according to claims 2 and 4, wherein the removable portion is adapted to separate from the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion along the perforations when the carton is erected, and a further band of peelable adhesive is disposed to lie along said further side region of the removable portion.

6. A carton comprising a sleeve portion consisting of wall-forming panels interconnected by fold lines and by a closure tab attached to one of the wall-forming panels along a fold line and engaging another of the wall-forming panels, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve portion along fold lines and closing off the ends of the sleeve portion, and a removable portion formed by an additional panel attached along a fold line to said other wall-forming panel in the blank from which the carton is erected, said removable portion overlying said one wall-forming panel and being removably attached thereto.

7. A carton according to claim 6, wherein the removable portion is attached to said other wall-forming panel by perforations.

8. A carton according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the removable portion is attached to said one wall-forming panel by a band of peelable adhesive.

9. A carton according to claim 6, wherein the removable portion is attached to said other wall-forming panel by perforations in the blank from which the carton is erected, but is separated from said other wall-forming panel along the perforations when the carton is erected.

10. A carton according to claim 9, wherein the removable portion is attached to said one wall-forming panel by two bands of peelable adhesive one on each side region of the additional panel.

11. A method of erecting a blank to form a

- carton, wherein the blank comprises a sleeve-forming portion consisting of wall-forming panels arranged side-by-side and interconnected by fold lines, a closure tab attached to the wall-forming panel on one side of the sleeve-forming portion along a fold line, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve-forming portion along fold lines, and a removable portion in the form of an additional panel attached to the wall-forming panel on the other side of the sleeve-forming portion along a fold line, the method comprising engaging the closure tab with the wall-forming panel on said other side of the sleeve-forming portion to form a flattened sleeve in which the additional panel overlies the wall-forming panel on said one side of the sleeve-forming portion and is removably attached thereto, applying pressure to the sides of the flattened sleeve to erect the sleeve, and closing off the ends of the carton by means of the flaps.
12. A method of erecting a blank to form a carton, wherein the blank is in the form of a flattened sleeve comprising a sleeve-forming portion consisting of wall-forming panels arranged side-by-side and interconnected by fold lines, a closure tab attached to one of the wall-forming panels along a fold line and engaging another of the wall-forming panels, flaps attached to the ends of the sleeve-forming portion along fold lines, and a removable portion in the form of an additional panel attached to said other wall-forming panel along a perforated fold line and overlying said one wall-forming panel and being removably attached thereto, the method comprising applying pressure to the sides of the blank to erect the sleeve and to thereby cause the perforations connecting the removable portion to said other wall-forming panel to break.
13. A blank for forming a carton, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.
14. A carton substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.
15. A method of erecting a blank to form a carton, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.